

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the future of Burlington rests on the hopes and dreams of its young people; and

**WHEREAS**, mentors offer valuable encouragement, motivation, and hope for our youth by providing a consistent adult friend and role model; and

**WHEREAS**, relationships with caring adult mentors offer youth valuable support to guide them toward making positive, healthy choices; and

**WHEREAS**, mentoring before, during, and after school has become an effective strategy used by schools to increase student attendance and academic performance; and

**WHEREAS**, research has shown that mentoring is a proven prevention technique, and mentored youth are less likely to start using drugs and alcohol, engage in physical violence, or skip school, and are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college; and

**WHEREAS**, mentored youth also exhibit improved resiliency, better relationships with peers and family members, and feel greater connectedness to their community and school; and

**WHEREAS**, mentoring programs and partnerships among businesses, schools, and other youth service organizations are an effective way for businesses to support youth within the community; and

**WHEREAS**, collaborative mentoring programs that are supported by the entire community, in Burlington, in Chittenden County, and across the State are more visible, and therefore are able to serve more youth; and

**WHEREAS**, Burlington area mentoring programs, Mobius, and other public and private organizations throughout Vermont are committed to working collaboratively to increase the number of quality mentoring matches statewide; and

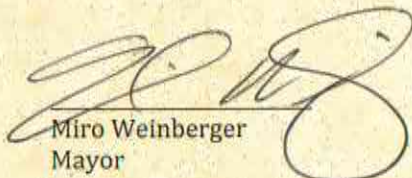
**WHEREAS**, according to MENTOR, the National Mentoring Partnership, one in three youth in Vermont will grow up without a formal or natural mentor; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2013, Mobius has served as Vermont's Mentoring Partnership, and is committed to closing this mentoring gap by providing support for youth mentoring programs and volunteer mentors throughout the State of Vermont; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2002, January has been designated as National Mentoring Month, a month-long outreach campaign focusing national attention on the need for mentors, as well as how each of us can work together to increase the number of mentors and assure brighter futures for our young people;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Miro Weinberger, Mayor of the City of Burlington, Vermont, do hereby proclaim the month of January 2015 to be

**MENTORING MONTH**

  
Miro Weinberger  
Mayor

